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PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
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Photo Story 3

Creating a story with your digital images

Starting a Photo Story

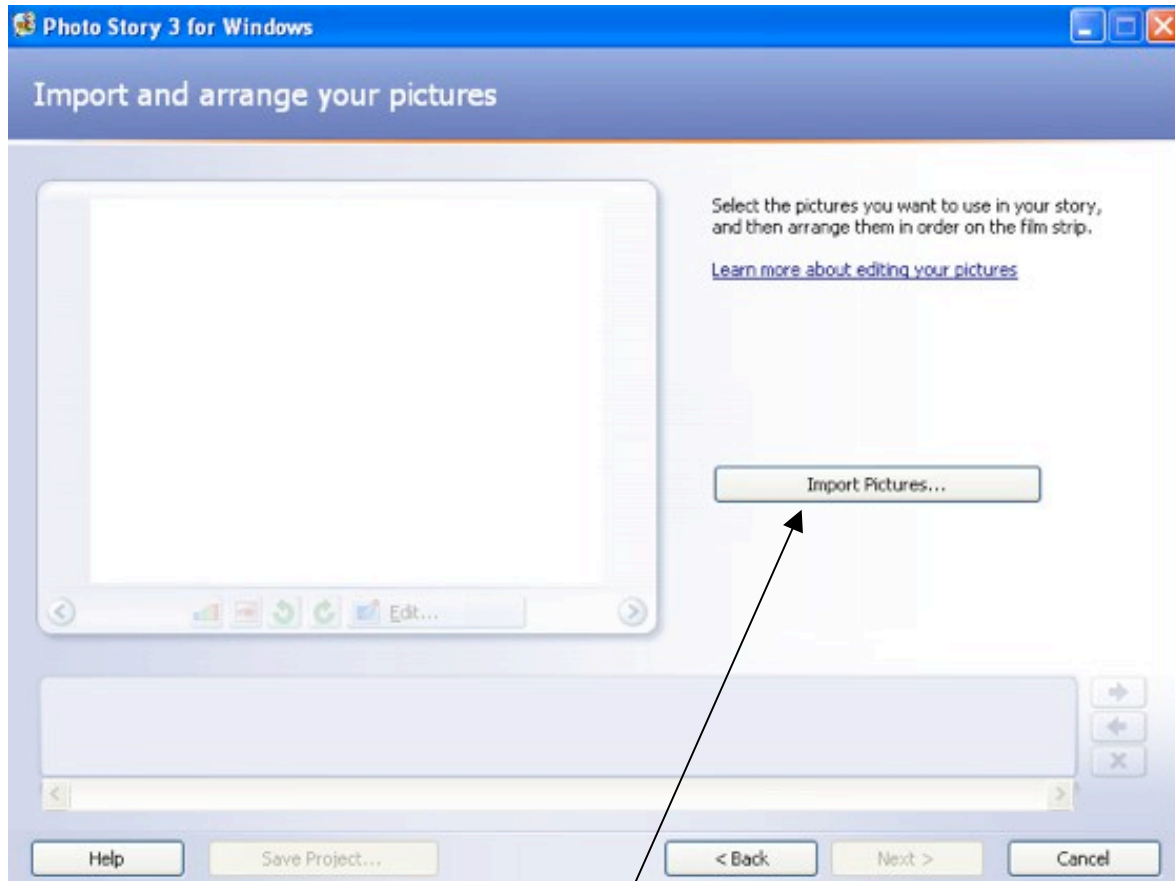
When you open Photo Story 3 you have a few options. For this manual, select the option **Begin a new story** and click the **Next** button on the screen.



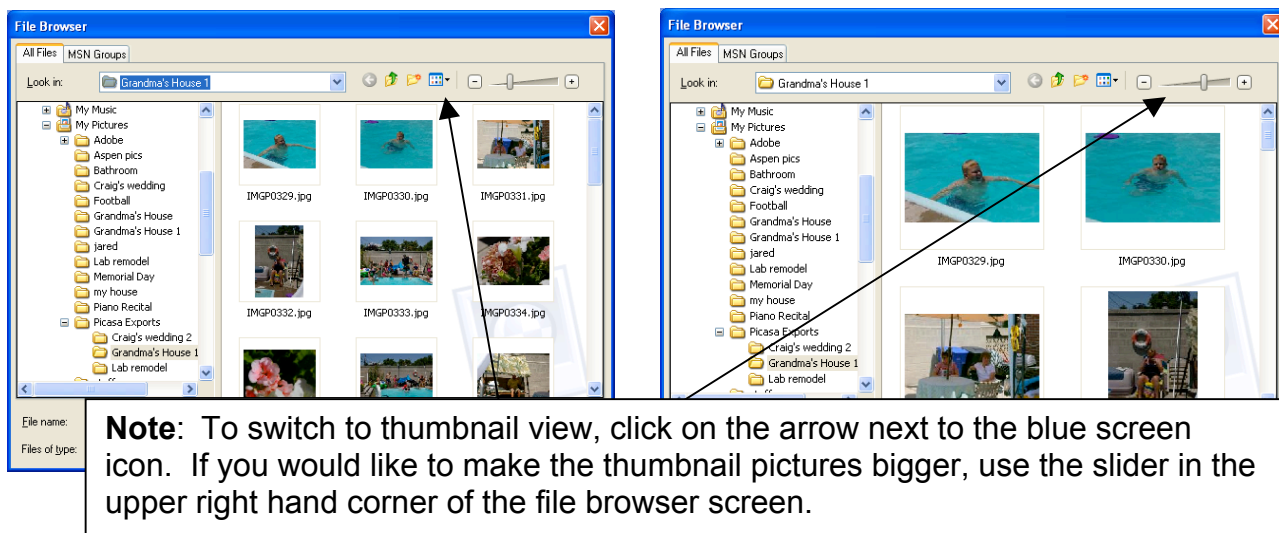
Importing and arranging Pictures

After you choose to begin a new story, you will be asked to import and arrange your photos. The importing process is an easy one and allows import of most image formats

including .bmp, .dib, .eps, .gif, .jpe, .jpeg, .jpg, .pcd, .pcx., .png, .psd, .rle, .tga, and .tif. **For each story, you can import up to 300 pictures.**

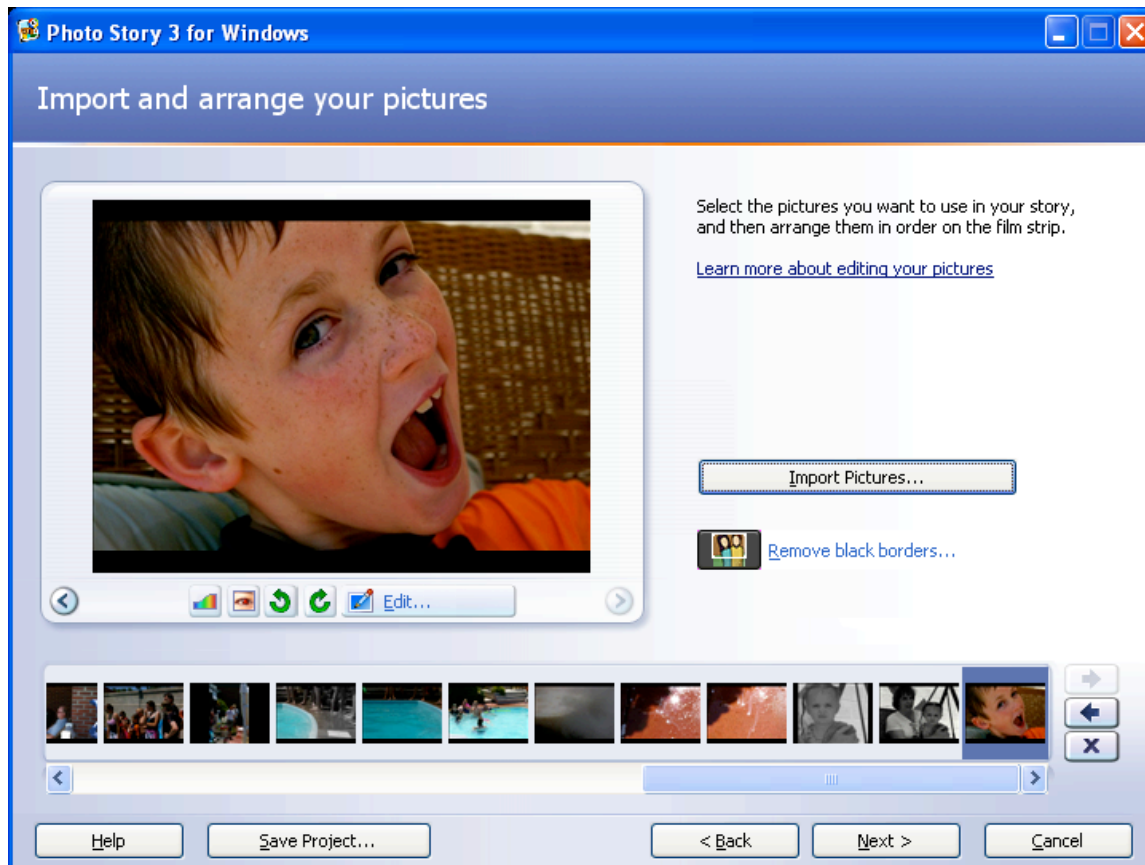


To import pictures, simply select the **Import Pictures** button. When the dialog box comes up, it is helpful to switch to thumbnail view so that you can see the images you would like to add easily.



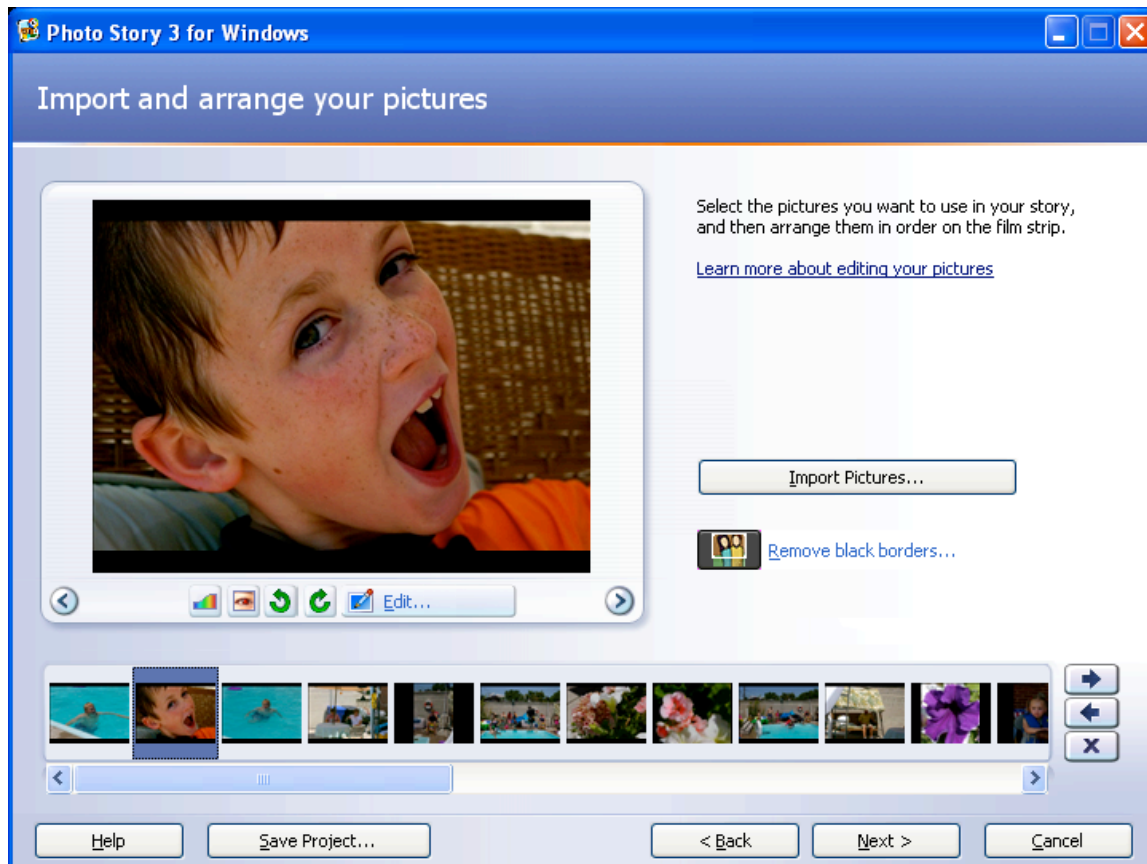
In the **File Browser** dialog box, do one of the following:

- ✱ On the **All Files** tab, click the folder in which your pictures are located. Select one or more pictures and then click **OK**.
- ✱ Click the **MSN Groups** tab. If required, sign in by using your Microsoft .NET Passport. Locate the MSN Groups website that contains your pictures, and then click **OK**.
- ✱ Holding down the Control (Ctrl) key while clicking your mouse allows you to select multiple images. Once you have selected all the images you want, click **OK**. The pictures will then import into your photo story.



- ✱ If you wish to import more pictures into your photo story, just click the import pictures tab again and add more photos. If you do add more photos, Photo Story 3 adds them to the end of the photo timeline.

To view the pictures in the film strip, use the scroll bar located below the strip. To move a picture, select its thumbnail in the timeline and click the left or right arrow. In the following screen capture, note that the last picture was moved to the second position.



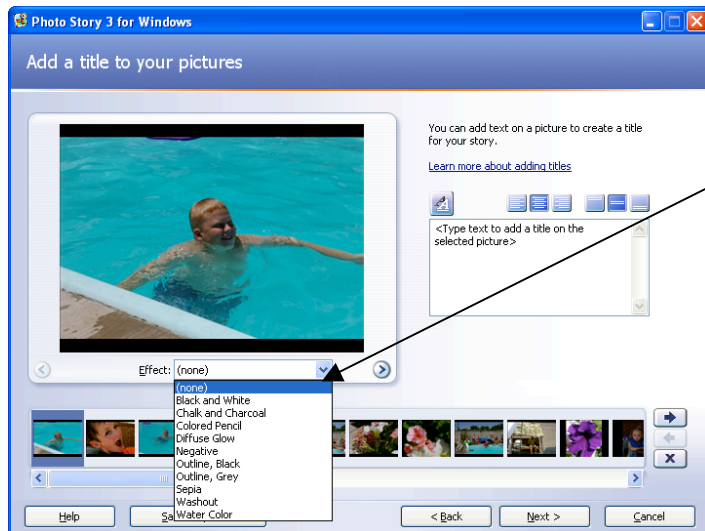
Repeat this process until you have all of the pictures in the order you desire.

Editing your Pictures

The most common edits that can and need to be made to digital pictures are done with a single click in Photo Story. From the **Import and arrange your pictures** dialog box you have the option to select pictures for edit. Underneath the enlarged image of each picture are several “quick click” buttons to change the color, adjust red-eye, and rotate your image. You can get more advanced options by clicking the **Edit** button.

Adding Titles and Effects

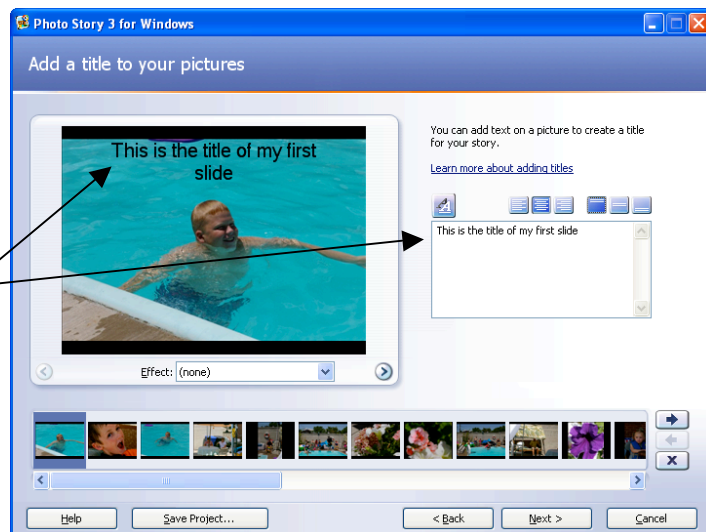
After arranging and editing your pictures, you will click **Next** at the bottom of the screen. This will take you to the next slide, providing you with more options to customize your photo story.



To add an effect to your picture, simply click on the drop down **Effect** menu and select from one of the many options. This allows you to make an individual picture stand out more in a slide show with very little effort.

When creating a digital story, often times you want to describe a certain picture or set a scene by overlaying words on top of an image. This process is easy with Photo Story.

Type the text you wish to appear in the caption box on the right hand side of your image. You can change the position, font, and font color by using the buttons above the box.



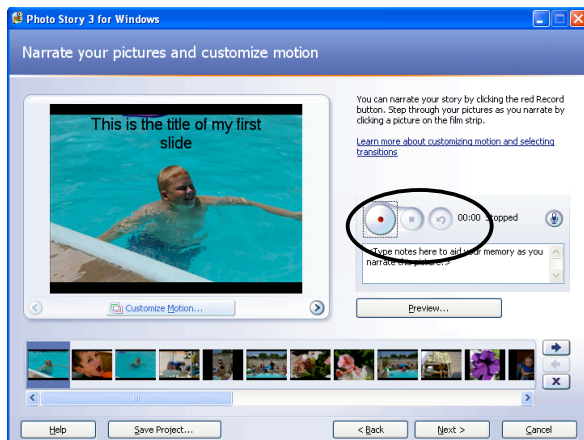
Note: Remember that to add text and multiple effects to the pictures in your photo story; you must work with each picture individually. The picture you are currently working on will appear in the large screen and be highlighted as a thumbnail.

Narrating Pictures and Customizing Motion

Once titles and effects have been added to pictures, click **Next** at the bottom of the Photo Story window. At the following screen, you will have the opportunity to add narration and customize the motion of all the pictures in the story.

Narrating Pictures

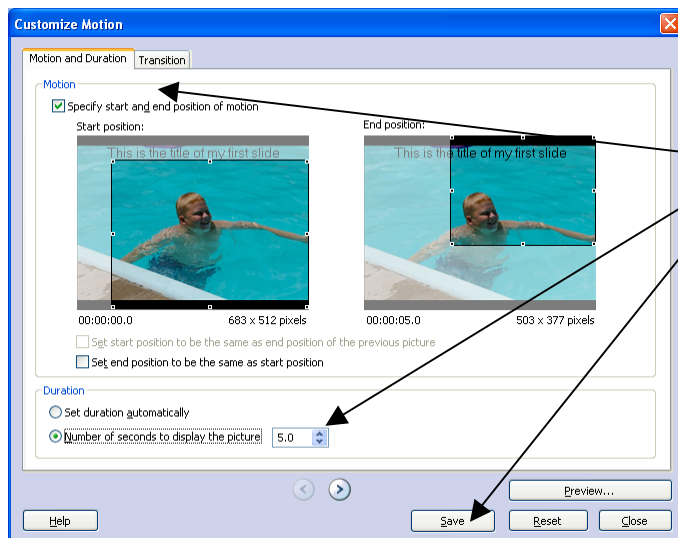
To narrate your story, you first need to decide what to say. If you need notes, you can type in the space provided on the screen. Once you are ready to record, and you have a microphone installed onto the computer you are using, begin speaking.



You can record up to five minutes of narration for each picture in your video story. You can also narrate pictures in any order that you want. If you do not like the narration for a picture you can delete it and start again. Deleting the narration does not delete any of the enhancements you have already made to pictures in your story.

Customizing Motion

To customize motion, begin by selecting the **Customize Motion** button under the large thumbnail of your photo. You can customize your photo by adjusting the **Motion and Duration** and the **Transition** of each image within the show.

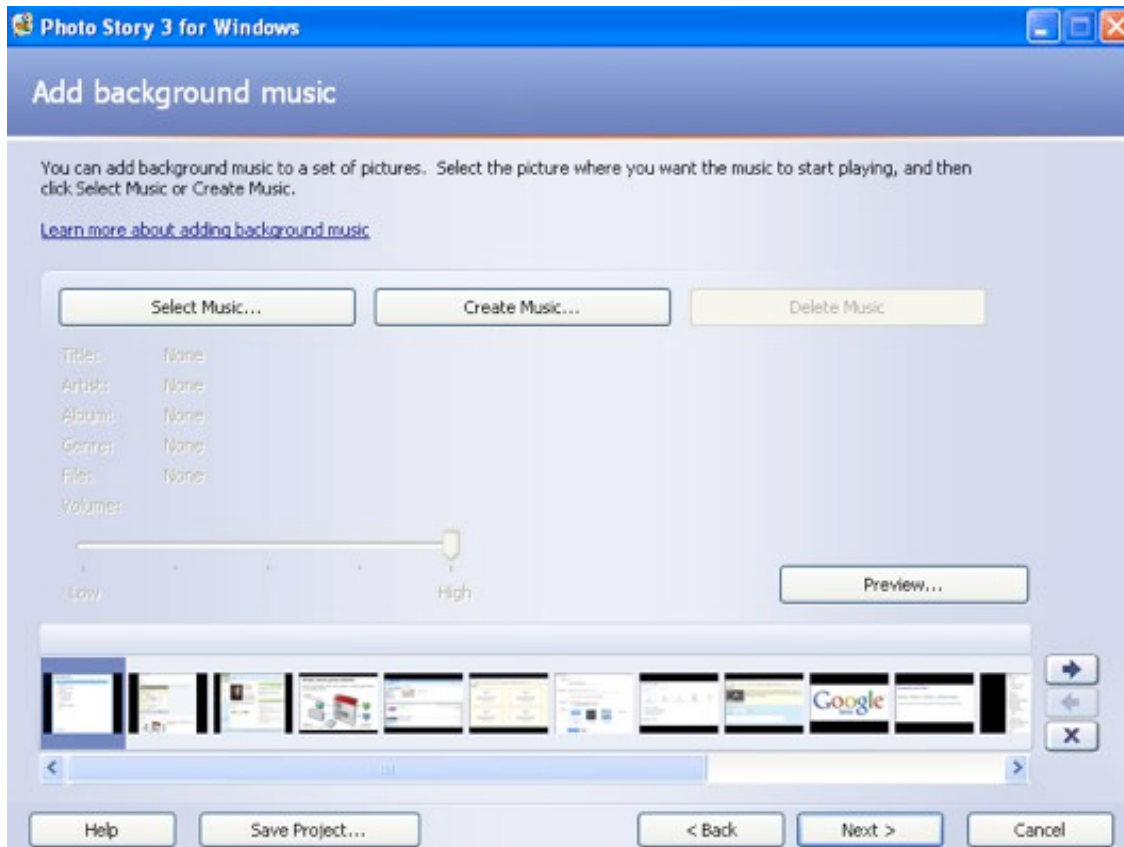


While making these changes it is important to save each individual picture and pay attention to the duration time. By selecting a specific motion path, you may be extending the duration of time an image is displayed. An image alone should be displayed for 3-5 seconds. An image with text and narration should be viewed from 5-10 seconds.

Once the motion and transitions have been completed and saved, then the window needs to be closed. At that point, you will be taken back to the main narration page. From here, click **Next** and move on to the adding music section of Photo Story.

Adding Background Music

Music helps to add emotion to your story. Like transitions, it is important that you choose music that is appropriate for the story you want to tell. Do your best to use music to your advantage. In Photo Story, you can add one song to play throughout the story or multiple songs. At the juncture between songs, the first will fade out and the second will fade in providing a good transition between the two. You can add as many songs as there are slides (images) in your story.



To select music for your story, select a picture. Then select a piece of music to start playing when the picture is displayed in your story.

The picture you select is the *anchor* image and indicates where you want the music to start playing. The music you select plays until one of the following events occurs:

- ✿ The music ends.
- ✿ An anchor image that specifies a new piece of music be played is encountered.
- ✿ The story ends.

You can replace a piece of music for an anchor image by selecting a different piece of music or by dragging a music file onto the anchor image in the film strip.

If the anchor image is deleted from the story, then the music and any other customizations associated with that image are also deleted from the story.

When you add background music to your story, a music strip appears above the film strip. The music strip displays the name of each piece of music that is added to your story. The music strip is color coded for each piece of music added.

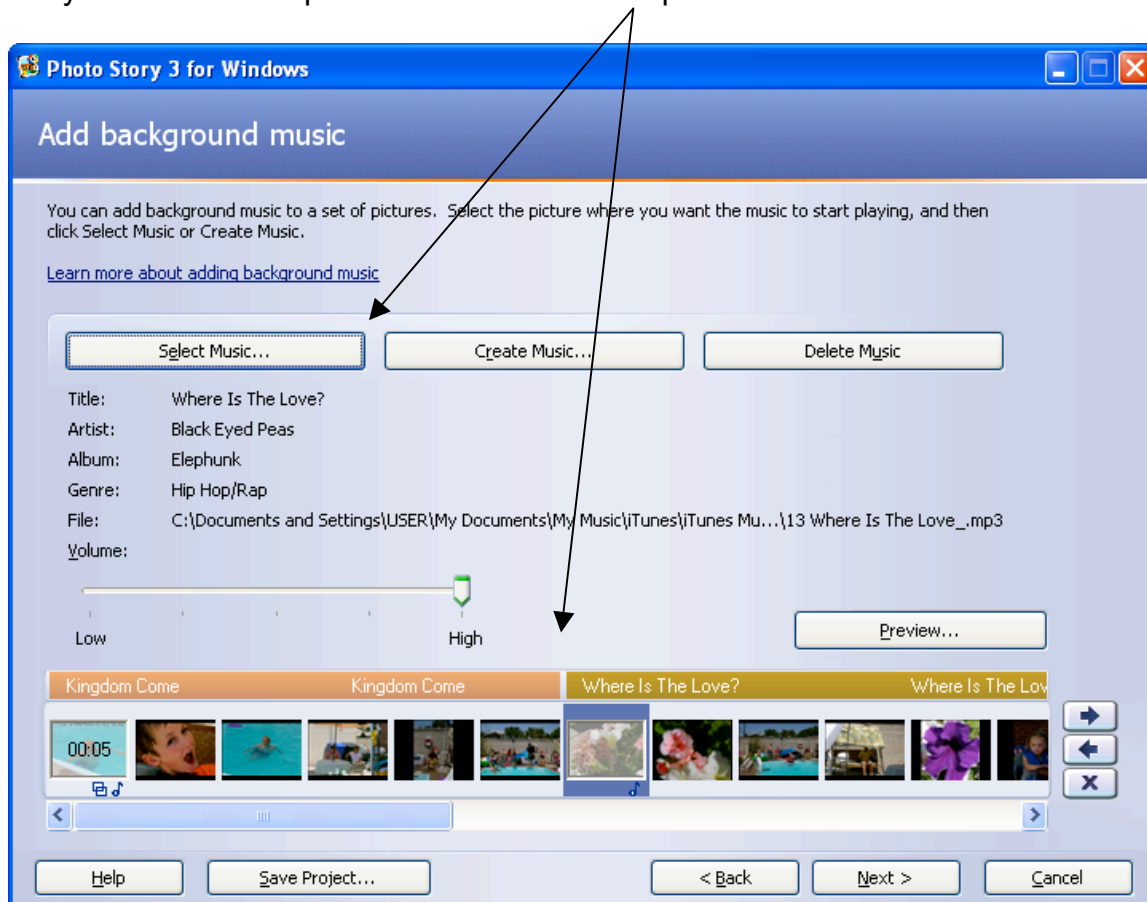


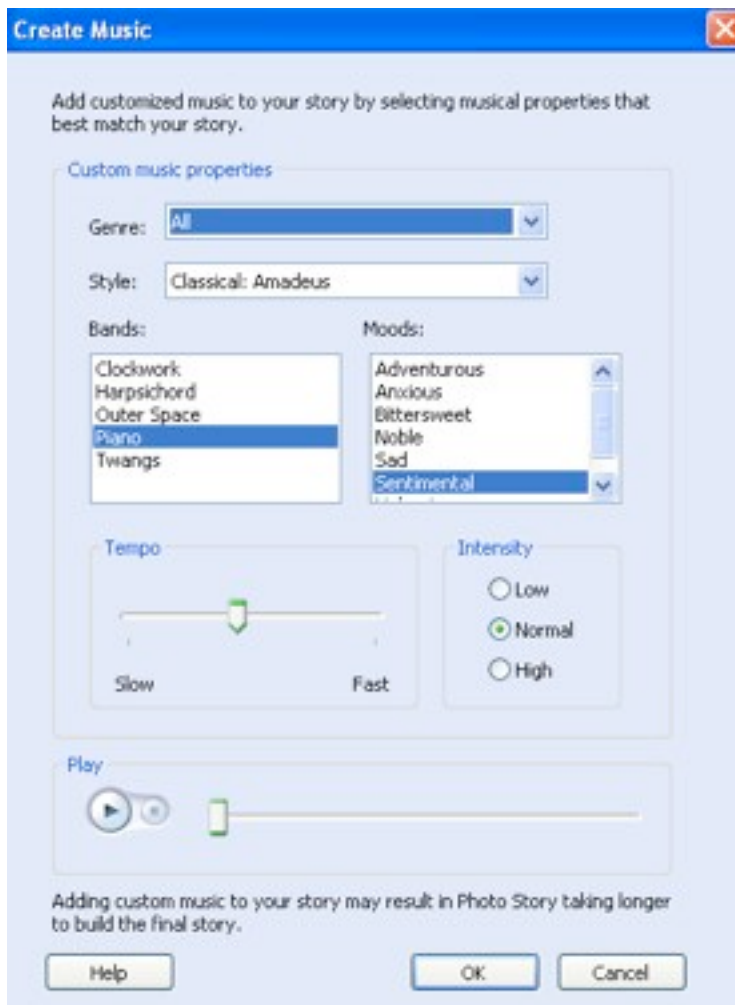
Photo Story automatically adjusts the amount of time a piece of music will play in your story when any of the following occurs:

- ✿ A picture is added to a group of pictures.
- ✿ A picture is deleted from a group of pictures.
- ✿ A picture is moved to a different place in the story.
- ✿ Another piece of music is added to the story.
- ✿ The story ends.

If you select a piece of music that is shorter than the picture duration in your story, the music will end before the picture is completely displayed. If you want background music to play for the entire picture duration, you can do one of the following:

- ✿ Reduce the picture duration. (Cut seconds off of each pictures display time.)
- ✿ Reduce the amount of narration.
- ✿ Select a longer piece of music.
- ✿ Insert the song again so that when it finishes, it starts over again.

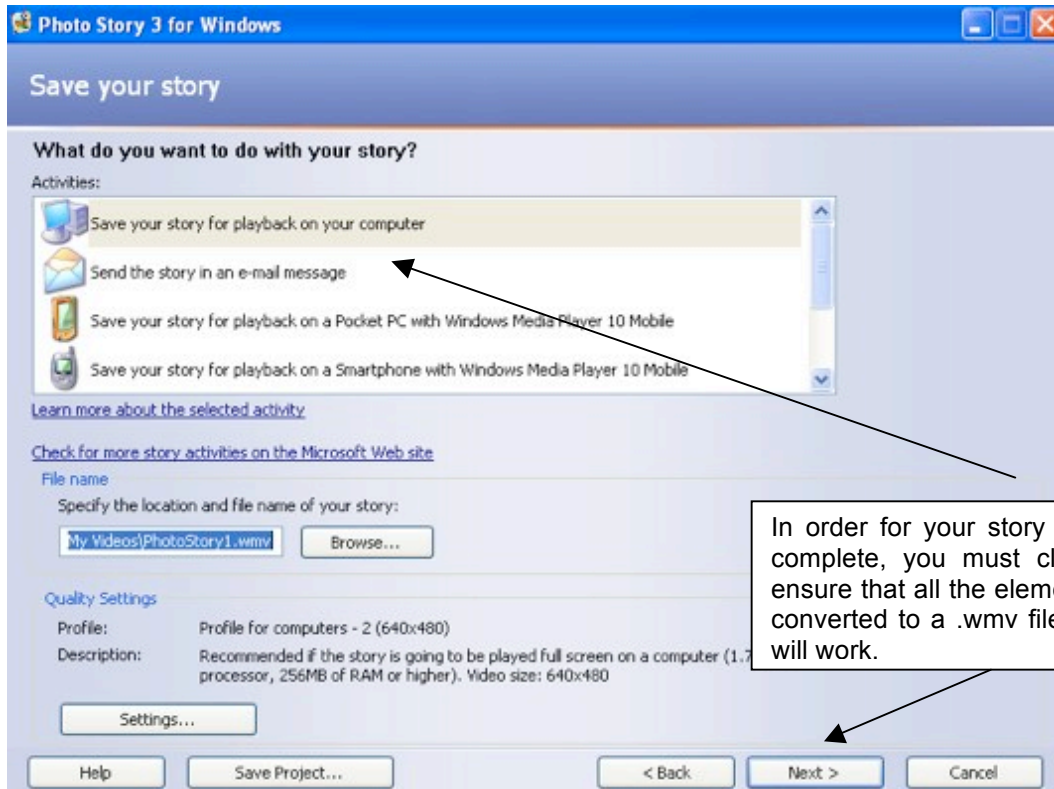
Photo Story allows you to either add music that you have stored already on your computer or create music using a series of options and sliders for a nice ambient effect.



From this dialog box, you can select music genre, style, tempo and mood. You can play and preview your instrumental creation until you get it just right. Then, you can insert your musical creation into your photo story and have it play through the show.

Saving your Story

One of the most important steps in producing your story is choosing how the world will see it. Fortunately, Photo Story makes this a straight-forward process for most uses. However you need to understand what each “activity” really means for the quality of your output.



Saving your story for playback on your computer

Every profile from every activity on your computer is available in the **Settings** dialog box. If you intend to play your story on your computer, in the settings dialog box, select the profile that is recommended for your computer. If you select a profile that requires a computer that is more powerful than your computer, a message may be displayed indicating that Photo Story cannot create the story. Try closing other programs and free up some space on your hard drive. If the problem persists, try selecting another profile.

If you intend to save your story on your computer, and then create a Video CD (VCD) or a DVD, in the settings dialog box, select the profile that is recommended for your VCD/DVD player. Then import the story into another VCD/DVD authorizing program that supports WMV files and burn the story onto a CD or DVD.

If you intend to save your story on your computer and then attach it to an e-mail message or copy it to a portable device, we recommend that you choose another activity that is optimized for these tasks in the activity list instead.